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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

SCORES CONDUCT OF PUBLIC SERVICE CORPS;
CONDEMNNS FEUDALISTIC SYSTEM IN SHANSI MINE

PUBLIC WORKERS LEAD EASY LIFE, SMOKE OPIUM -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 27 Mar 50

P'an-yu, 26 May -- The P'an-yu Hsien People's government in Kwangtung Province today dismissed 30 members of the 2d unit, Public Service Corps, because of their unbecoming conduct toward the general public.

After the liberation, this unit was trained under the Public Security Bureau and was later assigned to the Peace Maintenance and Service Corps of the same bureau.

The 30 members, most of whom were former unemployed vagrants, while pledging allegiance to the local people's government, continued to act as they had done in the past. They acted maliciously, and persistently lost revenue. They enjoyed a life of wine, women, and song. When the Canton bridge workers struck for higher wages, they tried to suppress them instead of supporting their rational struggle.

In addition, each member maintained a private opium den in his home. When the Public Security Bureau dispatched inspectors to their homes and confiscated large amounts of opium, they insisted that they had not violated any law and took countermeasures against the inspectors.

Such conduct on the part of public servants not only shows lack of discipline but also harms the masses. Consequently, the local government was forced to dismiss them.

PA-T'OU SYSTEM HAMPERS COAL PRODUCTION -- Hankow Chang-chiang Jih-pao,
30 Mar 50

Peiping, 28 March (Hsin-hua) -- The feudalistic pa-t'ou (labor contractor) system at the state-owned Yang-ch'uan Coal Mine in Shansi Province is seriously hampering production. During 1949, the mine produced only 87

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percent of the planned quota. Production during January and February of this year shows that the expected quota for 1950 may not be fulfilled unless the pa-t'ou system is eliminated.

A few days ago, the North China Mining Administration Headquarters of the Ministry of Fuel Industry directed the Yang-ch'uan Mining Bureau to investigate and correct this situation. A joint investigation team was organized by the bureau and the North China State-Owned Coal Mine Union. The team has gone to Yang-ch'uan to find a solution to this serious problem.

Although denied by the mine officials, the pa-t'ou system in the Yang-ch'uan Coal Mine does exist. The pa-t'ous of the preliberation days still retain their former authority and privileges under the new name of "ta-tsu-ch'ang" (senior section chief). For example, in Mine No 4, there are 57 ta-tsu-ch'angs, 43 of whom were pa-t'ous; of the 38 cadres included in the eight sections under the jurisdiction of the mining chief, 20 were formerly pa-t'ous. All work in the mine is contracted by ta-tsu-ch'angs; all workers hired or fired must be sanctioned by the ta-tsu-ch'angs; and all wages paid by the mine chief must first go through the hands of the ta-tsu-ch'angs.

The wages, which are paid in fen (parity units), are very unreasonable. The ta-tsu-ch'angs take full wages although they do little or no work. Moreover, they decide how much or when to pay wages to the workers. Workers receive only 60 fen while ta-tsu-ch'angs take 100 fen per work day. Thus the ta-tsu-ch'ang can earn 3,000-3,100 fen per month, calculated on 22 work days, but a worker receives 1,320 fen. The ta-tsu-ch'angs also receive the so-called "hardship pay" and "gratuity pay." The former is obtained from 3 fen squeezed from each worker's monthly wages, and the latter, from the payment of one ounce of rice for each carload of coal mined. They also make money by falsifying and exaggerating the number of workers or the amount of work done.

The lack of production discipline, the unstable control system, the unfriendly relations between labor union and management, the complacency on the part of the mining bureau to correct adverse situations in mines, are said to be some of the causes for the existence of the pa-t'o system in the Yang-ch'uan Coal Mine.

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